CALFED Implementation: Oversight & Management



Memorandum

Date:

November 5, 1998

To:

CALFED Policy Group

From:

Lester A. Snow

Executive Director

Subject: CALFED Bay-Delta Program Oversight and Management

Summary

At the October 1998 CALFED Policy Group meeting, CALFED staff were asked to provide an update at the November Policy Group meeting on the CALFED management and implementation structure issue. As a result of this direction, and with increasing stakeholder involvement, CALFED staff has continued work on the scope and duties of an implementation and management structure for the CALFED Program. Attachment 1 presents staff efforts to date, and a method for defining and understanding this issue.

Staff have worked with consultants and stakeholders to refine the problems associated with managing and implementing the CALFED Program, and to develop a set of functions that will need to be carried out at implementation, regardless of what type of structure administers the CALFED projects.

At the Bay-Delta Advisory Council (BDAC) meeting on October 30, there was an extensive discussion of Program oversight and management issues. Two questions were presented to BDAC for consideration. First, BDAC was asked to consider the recommendation from its Assurances and Ecosystem Restoration Work Groups that a new legal entity should be formed to implement the Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP). Second, BDAC was asked to consider the broader issues of Program oversight, such as what kinds of functions and authorities will be required by the oversight entity (whether it is CALFED or something else).

CALFED Agencies

California

The Resources Agency Department of Fish and Game Department of Water Resources California Environmental Protection Agency State Water Resources Control Board

Federal

Environmental Protection Agency Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Bureau of Reclamation U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Department of Commerce National Marine Fisheries Service

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In summary, BDAC concluded that it could not commit to the necessity of a new entity for ERP management, without considering it in the context of Program oversight generally. While there was general support among BDAC members for the concept of a new ERP management entity, most members also had the view that this specific question cannot be definitively answered until there has been more work done on the Program oversight questions. The Assurances Work Group was directed to take up both of these questions and to come back to BDAC with additional information and recommendations at the December and/or subsequent meeting. The Ecosystem Restoration Work Group and other work groups were also charged to begin consideration of implementation issues for the specific program elements within their purview and to think about how specific implementation of specific elements and actions will be integrated with each other and through a broad Program oversight structure.

Action

• <u>Concurrence Item</u> — The Policy Group will be asked to concur with the direction being taken by staff in addressing the management and implementation structure issue.

Detailed Discussion

See Attachment 1.

Attachment